

# 1,000 Stamps for \$2.95

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From: StampHoarder Subject: Kenmore Stamp Co, USA – Opinions on their approval service?

**Posted:** Fri Jun 11, 2010 10:07:06 am

My best friend thought he was doing me a favor by requesting a catalog from Kenmore Stamp Co. He thought I would get some new stamps with it but turns out, they are just stamps on approval stamps.

I'm a new collector. I was just wondering what people's reviews were for this company? Should I hold off on doing stamps on approval because I'm new or should I just receive them every now and again, just in case I come across a treasure?

From: **doug222usa** **Posted:** Fri Jun 11, 2010 12:58:06 pm

I guarantee you won't find any treasures.

Sixty years ago, when I was a kid, "approvals" was an honorable business. Now it's a racket, plying inexperienced collectors with overpriced rubbish. Note, there are highly specialized companies that send tightly-focused approvals to advanced collectors, but that's something else entirely.

There is nothing wrong with Kenmore as a company, and they are quite successful at what they do. You didn't say what you collect, and that makes a difference; you're more likely to enjoy buying old collections, breaking them down, keeping what you need, adding some of your own duplicates, and reselling them.

If you are near a stamp club, by all means join, and let experienced old-timers guide you. The average club offers plenty of stuff for sale, you can see it first-hand, and there's no postage to pay. Most clubs also have auctions now and then; lots for beginners are not greatly in demand, and you might actually find an overlooked treasure in that circumstance.

From: **aethelwulf** **Posted:** Fri Jun 11, 2010 15:53:06 pm

Kenmore, that's a name I haven't heard for a few years...I remember starting out collecting as a kid, they advertised "1,000 stamps for \$2.95" or some price like that on matchbook covers. Ordered one and got a big glassine with things like complete sheets of Manama and similar 'rubbish'. Although the packet did have 'useful' bits like inexpensive commems/pictorials from Europe and other areas.

Their approval service is like Mystic though...they sell everything at full Scott catalogue, when everyone else in the world takes Scott prices and sell at a fraction

of (the % varies depending on what you're selling)...even when Scott claims to show 'retail prices'. If it's China, then full Scott can be fair, sometimes even a bargain...if it's Iron Curtain CTOs, you could get away with buying at 10% of catalogue maybe, since the Soviets had warehouses full of that stuff printed, it's cheaper than wallpaper. 😊

From: **ozstamps** Posted: Fri Jun 11, 2010 16:58:56 pm

Mass produced approvals are a total waste of your money.

Why not find and buy a collection of REAL stamps from a member here?

<http://www.stampboards.com/viewforum.php?f=27>

Spend some money on real stamps, not pretty CTO labels made to fleece approval clients from Trucial States, or Korea or Africans despot Nothingdoms, and get some REAL stamps on your packet as well, and deal with REAL collectors?

Buying approval packs is like comparing a pre-packaged Safeway Pizza to one made with care and fresh ingredients from Mario's Local Pizza Palace. 😊

Buy a very long run of superb looking mint Papua New Guinea full sets for \$A45 post free from a respected member here -

<http://www.stampboards.com/viewtopic.php?f=27&t=19532>

Now THAT is money well spent, and they will be saleable in the future, by you or your heirs - which is more than I can say for garish Lady Diana stamp sets from Dahomey or North Korea - which are good for Kitty Litter or starting fires - and nothing more. 😊

From: StampHoarder Subject: Kenmore Stamp Co, USA - Opinions on their approval service?

Posted: Fri Jun 11, 2010 22:37:06 pm

Thanks for all the input!

I am super tight on funds and haven't officially even started my collection, but my plan was to get a decent amount of supplies and then hit these boards and see what I can purchase from others. The kenmore thing wasn't my idea, my friends, he had good intentions, but everything is over priced, and I'm a mint collector anyway and most of it isn't!

I do live in Mass but EVERY single stamp place I've gone to either doesn't have supplies, doesn't even have stamps (stamps and coins in the name, but no stamps.. or coins..), or is never open. Literally. My luck seems to be pretty bad for someone who would like to go out on my days off and see what's out there. There IS a stamp meeting that seems to be a pretty big deal once a month. I'm going to stop by this Tuesday and see what it's about. I'm excited.

As far as what I collect, I'm probably going to collect all stamps and not pick a topic. That's probably going to bite me in the butt at some point, but that's okay! lol

From: ristamps